UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/296
18 March 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 17 MARCH 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Islamic Republic of Iran has been reluctant to request circulation of its notes verbales exchanged on a bilateral level as documents of the Security Council. It is the considered view of the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran that transmission to and circulation in the United Nations of bilateral notes verbales, particularly when they relate to issues of a purely bilateral nature which could be resolved through bilateral dialogue, would hardly help to strengthen cooperation and good-neighbourly relations between two neighbouring countries.

In view of the practice followed by the Government of the United Arab Emirates and despite our wishes to the contrary, I am prompted to reverse course. Hence, I have the honour to transmit herewith the English translation of eight notes verbales from the Islamic Republic of Iran in response to eight notes verbales from the United Arab Emirates (see annexes I-VIII). It may be noted that the original notes verbales from the United Arab Emirates and the responses thereto by the Islamic Republic of Iran cover the years 1996 and 1997.

It would be appreciated if the text of the present letter and its annexes could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hadi NEJAD HOSSEINIAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex I

Note verbale dated 1 July 1996 from the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Abu Dhabi addressed to the Foreign Ministry of the United Arab Emirates

The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran presents its compliments to the Foreign Ministry of the United Arab Emirates and, with reference to the note verbale dated 12 March 1996 from the Foreign Ministry of the United Arab Emirates, has the honour to state the following:

The Islamic Republic of Iran rejects the assertions contained in the aforesaid note and once again stresses its sovereignty over Abu Musa island.

While declaring that measures implemented are all on the basis of the totality of existing arrangements, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran proclaims once again its readiness to continue bilateral dialogue to remove misunderstandings, and to examine problems in the letter from His Highness Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al-Nahyan, the Head of the United Arab Emirates, addressed to the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran on 20 April 1992.

Annex II

Note verbale dated 1 July 1996 from the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Abu Dhabi addressed to the Foreign Ministry of the United Arab Emirates

The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran presents its compliments to the Foreign Ministry of the United Arab Emirates and has the honour to convey the response of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the note verbale dated 22 April 1996 from the Foreign Ministry of the United Arab Emirates as follows:

While underscoring the good-neighbourly and fraternal relations between the two countries, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran considers the contents of the note verbale dated 22 April 1996 of that esteemed Ministry to constitute interference in its internal affairs and in violation of its territorial integrity and rejects the notions and contents therein.

Annex III

Note verbale dated 21 September 1996 from the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Abu Dhabi addressed to the Foreign Ministry of the United Arab Emirates

The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran presents its compliments to the Foreign Ministry of the United Arab Emirates and, with reference to the note verbale dated 18 July 1996 from the Embassy of the United Arab Emirates in Tehran addressed to the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran, has the honour to state the following:

While mutual respect for good-neighbourly relations is reconfirmed and underscored, since the note verbale mentioned above contains unprincipled and unacceptable claims which are in clear violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the notions and contents therein are categorically rejected.

Annex IV

Note verbale dated 30 October 1996 from the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Abu Dhabi addressed to the Foreign Ministry of the United Arab Emirates

The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran presents its compliments to the Foreign Ministry of the United Arab Emirates and, with reference to the note verbale dated 22 September 1996 from the Embassy of the United Arab Emirates in Tehran addressed to the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran, has the honour to state the following:

The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran considers the contents of the above-mentioned note as interference in its internal affairs and in violation of its territorial integrity and thus the notions and contents therein are categorically rejected.

Annex V

Note verbale dated 26 January 1997 from the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to the Embassy of the United Arab Emirates in Tehran

The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran presents its compliments to the Embassy of the United Arab Emirates in Tehran and, with reference to note verbale No. 911-11/8/8 dated 17 July 1996, has the honour to state the following:

The circumstances surrounding the United Arab Emirates' motor boat in question (permit No. 13 sh) were thoroughly investigated by the relevant authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The result of the investigation indicates that the motor boat has not been seized by the Iranian law-enforcement agents.

Annex VI

Note verbale dated 2 March 1997 from the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to the Embassy of the United Arab Emirates in Tehran

The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran presents its compliments to the Embassy of the United Arab Emirates in Tehran and, with reference to the note verbale date 24 October 1996 from the Foreign Ministry of the United Arab Emirates addressed to the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Abu Dhabi, has the honour to state the following:

The circumstances surrounding motor boats Nos. 133 and 2222 were thoroughly investigated by the relevant authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The result of the investigation indicates that, on 26 September 1996, Iranian patrol boats did not intercept or come across any boats belonging to nationals of the United Arab Emirates. Therefore, the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran categorically rejects the contents of the note verbale referred to above.

Annex VII

Note verbale dated 2 March 1997 from the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to the Embassy of the United Arab Emirates in Tehran

The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran presents its compliments to the Embassy of the United Arab Emirates in Tehran and, with reference to the note verbale dated 24 September 1996 from the Foreign Ministry of the United Arab Emirates addressed to the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Abu Dhabi, has the honour to state the following:

According to reports from the relevant authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the patrol boats of the Islamic Republic of Iran have had no engagement with fishing boats belonging to nationals of the United Arab Emirates. Therefore, the contents of the said note verbale are categorically rejected.

Annex VIII

Note verbale dated 17 March 1997 from the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to the Embassy of the United Arab Emirates in Tehran

The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran presents its compliments to the Embassy of the United Arab Emirates in Tehran and, with reference to the note verbale dated 14 November 1996 from the Foreign Ministry of the United Arab Emirates addressed to the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Abu Dhabi, has the honour to state the following:

The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran considers the contents of the above-referenced note verbale to constitute interference in its internal affairs and hence the notions and contents therein are categorically rejected.